having 5,000 population out of which 50% are Scheduled Tribes in each cluster. In addition, the tribals indentified as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) are also assisted.

Proposal to Increase Capacity of Nagercoil T.V.

2805. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of the Nagercoil T.V. Station so as to enable it to cover at least the entire Kanya Kumari District in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRUA VYAS): (a) and (b). Besides the low power TV transmitter functioning at Nagercoil, parts of Kanyakumari district receive TV service from the high power TV transmitter operating at Kodaikanal. There is no proposal at present either to augment the power of the existing transmitter at Nagercoil or to replace the same by a high power transmitter. It would nevertheless be Doordarshan's endeavour to strengthen TV service in the district depending upon the availability of adequate resources for the purpose.

Recognition of Dusandh Caste as Scheduled Caste

2806. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dusandh Caste is recognised under the Scheduled Caste amendment order 1956-76-82 Act; and

(b) if so, the reasons for which it is not recognised in Delhi whereas the people of this Caste have been living in Delhi for the last 40 years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). Dusandh has been notified as Scheduled Caste in relation to any State or U.T.

Telex Facilities in Tirpur, Tamil Nadu

2807. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for telex facilities pending in Tirpur, Tamil Nadu with the Government; and

(b) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 265.

(b) The existing Telex Exchange is likely to be expanded by another 250 lines, during the year 1992-93. Considerable proportion of the waiting list will be cleared subsequently within a period of six months from the date of expansion of the existing telex exchange.

Mess Charges to Inmates of Social Welfare Hostels

2808. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mess charges being paid to the inmates Social Welfare Hostels are inadequate and are not commensurate with the hike in prices; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to evolve a Uniform Policy throughout the country in this regard and the payment of